

THE MOVING ASSISTANCE (MA) PROGRAM

Fact Sheet

CalWORKs families who are experiencing a financial crisis, **including** homelessness or at risk of homelessness (already received eviction notice or 3-day notice to pay or quit), may receive funds to assist the family to secure affordable, permanent housing. If the family is homeless, the family must have exhausted all other means of assistance including Homeless Assistance (if eligible) to qualify for MA.

Families who are not homeless or at risk of homelessness, must demonstrate that they are experiencing a financial hardship that could result in homelessness if assistance is not provided. Proof of the financial hardship is required.

Funds cannot be used to reimburse expenses already paid by the participant.

To be eligible for MA, the family must:

- Be approved for CalWORKs or timed-out from CalWORKs;
- Be homeless or at risk of homelessness **OR** experiencing a financial crisis.
- Be meeting the Welfare-to-Work (WtW) requirements.

Once the eligibility requirements are met, a family:

- May receive up to \$2,000 as a once-in-a-lifetime payment to pay for move-in costs (e.g., security deposit, last month's rent, cleaning fees, key deposits, etc.), utility turn-on fees, moving costs (e.g., truck rental), and the purchase of a stove and/or refrigerator if the new place does not have one.
- For timed-out families only, and included in the \$2,000 limit, the MA program will also pay for **up to the amount of the adult portion of the reduced grant for two months.**

Example: Family's rent is \$550, and grant of \$704 is reduced by \$136 (timed-out adult portion) to \$568. Family can receive up to \$272 MA (\$136 x 2 months); and

- The family's share of the rent cannot exceed 80% of the total monthly household income (TMHI).

NOTE: Income to be counted toward the TMHI includes gross earned and unearned income, including the CalWORKs computed grant, but does not include Food Stamps, CalWORKs Special Needs or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and State Supplementary Payment (SSP).

Example: The TMHI for a family of two is \$2,147.00 (\$1,526 earned income and \$621 CalWORKs computed grant). Eighty percent of \$2,147.00 is \$1,717.00. The family's share of the rent cannot exceed \$1,717.00.

The MA program can be used in conjunction with the Homeless Assistance program in certain situations (e.g., the participant needs to purchase a stove and/or refrigerator, the participant needs to rent a truck to move into the new residence).

The MA payment does not include the first month's rent.

Families must apply in person at a CalWORKs district office.